

Introduction:

There are things in life which makes us think the world is against us, both personally and as Christians. The shooting last Sunday at a church of Christ brings home the dangers bad people present. Fortunately, he was not able to kill more but he was able to kill those who came together for the sole purpose of worshipping God. As we begin the New Year, I want us to think about *Romans 8.31-39*.

I) If God Is For Us, *Romans 8.31a*

A) The word "if" is not used here to indicate uncertainty.

1. If is often used to mean "since" or because. *Colossians 3.1*
2. They had been baptized into Christ as Paul refers to them as saints and faithful brethren, *Colossians 1.2*.
3. They had been delivered from the domain of Satan and translated into the kingdom of His Son, *Colossians 1.13*.

B) Since these things are so then...

II) Who Can Be Against Us, *Romans 8.31b*

A) The fact is a lot of people can be against us.

1. As Christians we will face opposition and possible persecution. *John 15.18,19*

2. As mentioned in a lesson just a few weeks ago
 - a. From family, *Matthew 10.34-37*
 - b. From friends or those who used to be our friends, *Luke 21.16*
 - c. From our brethren, *Galatians 4.16*.
 - d. From religious enemies, false teachers, *John 16.2-3*
 - e. From governing authorities, *Romans 8,38*

B) The whole book of Revelation is showing us the religious battle between the church and the world or Satan and God.

III) It Is God Who Blesses Us, *Romans 8.32*

A) He freely gives us all things, *James 1.17*

1. Primarily God gave us His Son
2. Why? So we can have spiritual life, *Ephesians 1.3-14*

B) He give us His word so we can know His will, *Jude 3*

C) He gave us this spiritual family called the church

D) He gives us the avenue of prayer so we call on His help in time of need.

IV) God Justifies Us, *Romans 8.33*

A) To justify means to make right or to declare as being

right

1. Man often seeks to justify himself but that does not make us right before God.
2. Man is justified by obeying God's law.
 - a. We are justified by grace, *Romans 3.24*
 - b. By faith, *Romans 5.1*
 - c. By works, *James 2.24*

B) Others may charge us but it is only God's opinion that counts, *Romans 24.4, 10*

V) Christ Intercedes For Us, *Romans 8.34.*

A) Many of those mentioned earlier were seeking to condemn Christians

1. They persecuted Christians, fed them to lions, burned them on stakes, cut off their heads, stoned them, etc.
2. But the one thing they could not really do was condemn them.

B) As God people we know

1. Jesus is at God's right hand and intercedes for us, *Hebrews 7.25;4.14-16.*
2. Jesus is our Advocate, *1 John 2.1.*

VI) Nothing Can Separate Us From Christ , *Romans 8.35*

A) The comfort we can all have is no one can separate you from Christ except you

1. As long as we remain faithful, Christ will be faithful to us.
2. We can separate ourselves from Christ but that is on us. Our minds should be made us to serve Him no matter the persecution, distress, or other hardships.

B) Just as Revelation says God will be victorious, so Paul says so in *Romans 8.37*.